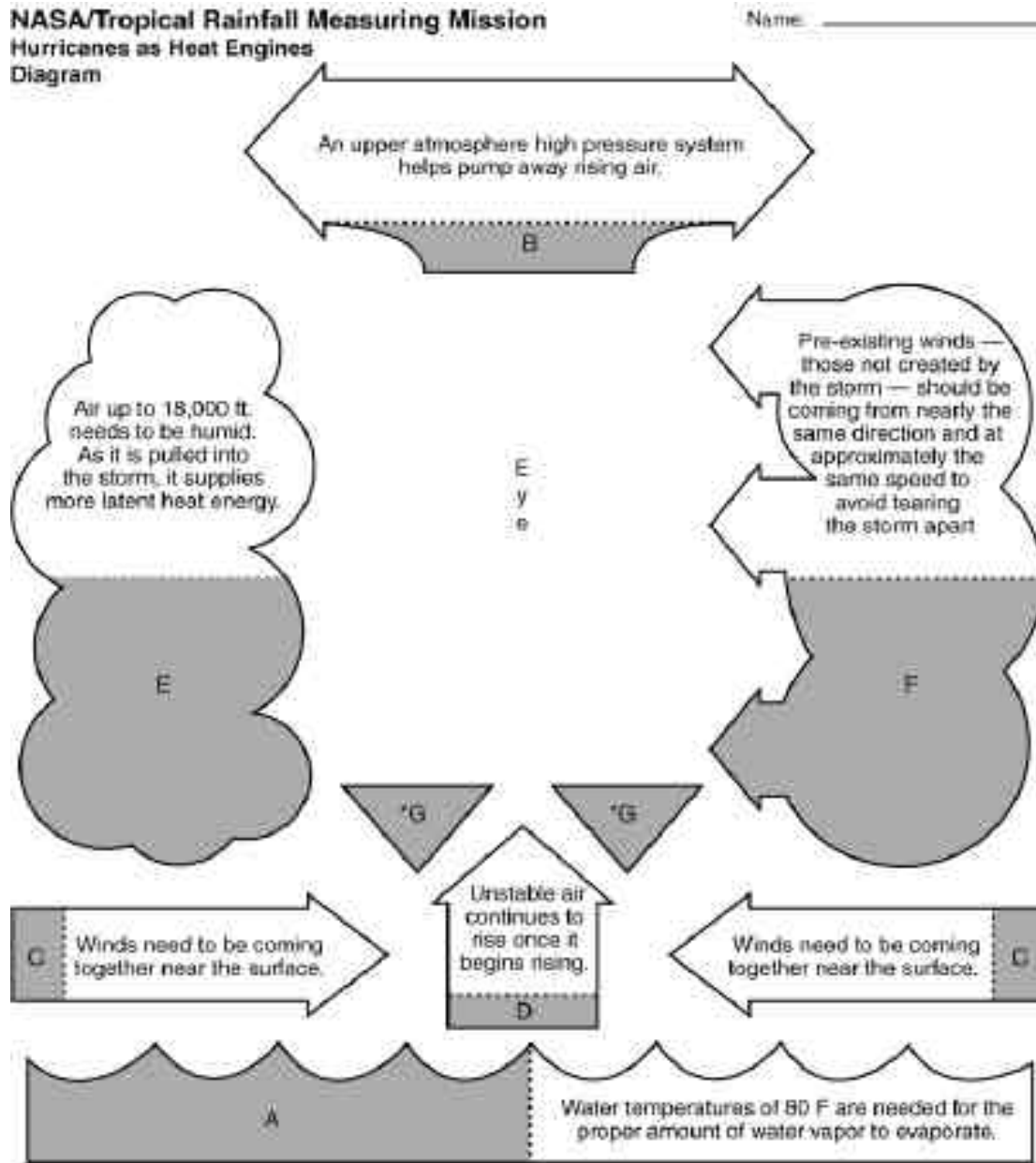


## NASA/Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM)

### Topic #2: Hurricanes as Heat Engines



#### \*The Heat Engine

\*As rising humid air cools & condenses it releases latent heat which warms more air causing it to rise. This process could be described as an engine which uses the latent heat in water vapor as fuel which it converts into powerful winds & heavy rain. The winds are drawn into the storm to replace the rising warm air.